

## **Animals of the Stone Age**

### What is the Stone Age?

The Stone Age was made up of three dominant eras: The Palaeolithic, Mesolithic, and the Neolithic. These eras are also known as the Old Stone Age, Middle Stone Age, and New Stone Age. While people continued to use stone tools, it was known as the Stone Age. Simple stones gave way to more complex methods of sharpening in the lives of the hunter-gatherers who lived during these times.

### What Weapons Were Used To Hunt Animals?

The types of weapons carved out of stone give some insight into the types of animals that existed in different parts of the world. This is because different weapons were needed to kill different animals. Since the discoveries of stone objects, it is seen that in South America hand axes were small. These hand axes were used to catch small fish and wild cats. In Africa, there were bigger prey such as woolly mammoths and bison. Spears and weapons made out of jagged rocks were used to hunt these animals.

### How Do Scientists Know What Animals Lived During The Stone Age?

To figure out what animals lived during these times, a picture is created by looking at ancient cave art work. The discovery of fossils provides a vital clue in the gathering of data. "On this artefact, you can see the cut marks made by Neolithic people," stated archaeologist Professor Jo Ward. A combination of fossil information and art work, show what animals were alive at this time.

